

PLO Central Council cancels meet

AMASCUS, Dec. 8 (R). — The Central Council of a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has called off a meeting to be held here today, because O leader Yasser Arafat is at present touring eastern Europe, a Palestinian informed source said today. The meeting was to have studied Palestinian assistance activities during the Lebanese civil war. The central council comprises representatives of guerrilla and social and professional groups.

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8 technocrats may join

Al Hoss to form cabinet

AMMAN, Dec. 8 (Agencies). — Lebanese President Elias Sarkis asked 46-year-old economics professor Dr. Salim Al Hoss to form a new government, the presidential palace announced today. The palace statement, broadcast on television, said the president of Dr. Al Hoss ended two days of consultations by the president on the formation of a government to help rebuild the country.

Al Hoss, who headed the International Development Bank when he broke out over 19 months ago, is expected to ask eight technocrats to join his cabinet. Both left and rightwing politicians have announced their approval of a non-partisan government for a transitional period.

Al Hoss accompanied President Sarkis on trips to the Arab League in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Cairo, Egypt, last October, serving as a financial advisor. As Prime Minister, Dr. Al Hoss would succeed Mr. Rashid Karami, who held the office at the outbreak of war in April 1975. Both are Moslems, in line with the country's unwritten constitution.

Fighting on Lebanon's major battle fronts was halted last month by heavily-armed Syrian troops acting as Arab League peace-keepers. But tonight's announcement followed reports that left and rightwing Lebanese gunmen had clashed today near the highly sensitive Israeli border.

In an earlier development Dr. Al Hoss today said the National Bank for Development of Industry and Tourism would make 50 million Lebanese pounds (\$18 million) available to help industry start up production in the wake of the civil war.

In an interview with the leftwing daily Al Safir, he said the money would be lent to companies faced with cash problems but otherwise would have no technical difficulties in getting their factories back into production.

Prince Hassan afterwards briefed Foreign Minister Renaa van der Ende on the Middle East situation and on the necessity of reaching a just settlement to guarantee the return to the Arabs of the occupied territories and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

Other subjects were also discussed in the meeting between Prince Hassan and Foreign Trade Minister Michel Toussaint which held this morning where the signing of a trade agreement between Jordan and Belgium was discussed.

Later this evening the Crown Prince held talks with NATO's defence secretary Joseph Lanza. The Atlantic Treaty Organisation is currently holding a meeting in the Belgian capital.

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His Majesty King Hussein accompanies President Hafez Assad to the aircraft which took them from Amman airport to Aqaba Wednesday at the end of President's Assad's visit here. With the two leaders is Chief of the Royal Cabinet Abdul Hamid Sharaf. (JNA photo).

Allon reported to favour return of Gaza to Arabs

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon now believes Israel should give up the occupied Gaza Strip in any peace settlement with the Arabs, political colleagues reported today.

They said he had changed his mind about the so-called Allon Plan which he put forward after the 1967 war and which would have incorporated the Gaza Strip within Israel.

At a closed meeting of Labour members of parliament last night, Mr. Allon said: "I now realise that it is impossible to relocate the 300,000 Palestinian refugees in the strip in the northern Sinai region, as I had originally considered."

"And as the presence of another 300,000 Arabs in Israel would upset the demographic balance, I now think we should consider giving up the Gaza Strip under a peace agreement," he was quoted as saying.

Under the Allon Plan, Israel's political eastern border would be in the hills of Judea and Samaria north and south of Jerusalem. A string of settlements would be maintained in the Jordan Valley as a defence screen but populated hill regions would be returned to Jordan.

Miki will confirm resignation soon

TOKYO, Dec. 8 (R). — Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki, 69, is expected to confirm his intention of resigning in two or three days, following the failure of his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to obtain the required working majority of seats in the Diet.

The announcement was made today by the chief cabinet secretary Ichitaro Ide.

Mr. Miki's rival and former deputy Mr. Takeo Fukuda, 71, is considered the likeliest candidate to succeed him as leader of the party and as premier.

Prices on the Tokyo stock market today recorded their second highest rise in the year as Japan's business world showed its approval of Mr. Fukuda coming to power.

Mr. Fukuda, a financial expert and former director general of the Economic Planning Agency, has the support of big business and two thirds of LDP members of the lower house of the Diet. He favours measures to reflate the economy.

Mr. Miki indicated yesterday that he may step down shortly to take responsibility for the LDP's loss of a working majority in the lower house for the first time in 21 years.

An LDP caucus is expected to choose a new leader to nominate for premiership later this month. The next prime minister is to be elected at a special Diet session scheduled for Dec. 25.

Analysts said there was an outside possibility of the LDP choosing someone other than Mr. Fukuda, due to the hostility still being expressed against Mr. Fukuda by Mr. Miki's supporters. In addition,

the electorate showed it was in the mood for younger leadership.

Finance Minister Masayoshi Ohira, 66, Foreign Minister Zenaro Kosaka, 64, and former Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, 57, were among alternative names mentioned.

Informed sources said that in return for submitting to mounting pressures to step down, the 69-year-old prime minister was seeking a pledge from the party to reform itself.

He wants the party to revise its system of electing its leader -- who automatically becomes premier when the party is in power -- to institute a code of political ethics, to make a thorough investigation into the Lockheed scandal and to give younger members more opportunities.

Mr. Miki regards the leadership election system as a source of corruption which lost the party some of its support.

His proposed revision of the present system, which sets no limits to the amount of money that can be spent by candidates, would not damage Mr. Fukuda's chances.

Chief cabinet secretary Mr. Ide told reporters Mr. Miki would present his proposals for reform to the party executive in two or three days and "this action will mean his official expression of the intention to resign from public service."

Mr. Miki's followers today criticised Mr. Fukuda for disrupting party unity before the election by stepping down as deputy premier to challenge Mr. Miki.

Joint statement concludes Assad's visit

Steps taken for speedier union

AMMAN (JNA). — President Hafez Assad of Syria flew back to Damascus Thursday after two days of talks with His Majesty King Hussein on steps to bring Jordan and Syria closer together. A joint statement on the talks issued Thursday said the two leaders had decided to form a high-level joint committee to complete the necessary studies on which the forthcoming unitary structure between the two countries will be established.

The committee will report, as soon as possible, to the supreme leadership of King Hussein and President Assad who will then take the appropriate measures.

The statement said the talks were held in an atmosphere of "true brotherhood and complete confidence."

King Hussein and President Assad reviewed progress so far achieved on the road to coordination and felt that a more advanced formula regarding unifying certain governmental systems should now be drawn up.

The two leaders discussed the situation in the Middle East and declared their determination "to continue to work towards unified Arab action and the mobilisation of Arab potentials... in pursuance of liberating the occupied Arab territories and recovering the rights of the Palestinians."

They believed that Arab solidarity was the best means to achieve those targets, the statement said. Both leaders expressed their satisfaction with the situation in Lebanon, where peace and stability have been restored thanks to Syria's initiative, the statement added.

Waldheim formally appointed by U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (R). — The U.N. General Assembly today formally appointed Dr. Kurt Waldheim of Austria to a second five-year term as United Nations Secretary General.

The 146 Nation body acted by acclamation in response to a unanimous recommendation by the Security Council.

Mr. Waldheim, who will be 58 on Dec. 21, was first appointed in 1971 to succeed Mr. U Thant of Borneo. His new mandate will run until Dec. 31, 1981.

One of Mr. Waldheim's priorities is expected to be a new effort to reconvene the Geneva conference on the Middle East. This has been blocked primarily by Israel's refusal to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which the U.N. has said must be a participant.

A resolution now before the assembly calls for the resumption of the Geneva talks, with the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. as co-chairmen, by March 31.

Kuwait agrees to help release Iranian pilot held in South Yemen

KUWAIT, Dec. 8 (R). — Kuwait has agreed to act as an intermediary in obtaining the release of an Iranian pilot whose jet was shot down by South Yemeni forces two weeks ago, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said here today.

The foreign minister said Iran had asked for Kuwait's help in freeing the pilot.

The South Yemeni government said Maj. Darius Jalali, 37, was captured on Nov. 24 after his F-4 Phantom jet was shot down while on a reconnaissance mission over its territory, near the border with Oman.

This co-pilot was killed. Iran has denied the plane flew over South Yemen.

Soviet-Libyan views differ

MOSCOW, Dec. 8 (R). — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and Soviet leaders headed by Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev apparently remained divided over ways of achieving a Middle East settlement after a third round of talks here today. The duration of the talks and the fact that Mr. Brezhnev, Premier Alexei Kosygin and President Nikolai Podgorny were all taking part was seen as indicating that the negotiations were tough. Soviet-Libyan differences on the Geneva peace conference were aired soon after colonel Qadhafi arrived on Monday.

OPEC meeting to be held as planned from Dec. 15

DOHA, Dec. 8 (Agencies). — The next price-fixing conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will be held here on Dec. 15 as originally planned, Qatar Finance and Oil Minister Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifeh Al Thani said here today.

Quoted by the official Qatar News Agency, the minister said the date had been approved by the oil ministers of all 13 OPEC member states.

The date for the regular OPEC ministerial conference which was due to decide whether oil prices should be raised in the new year and by how much had been in doubt because it coincided with an important conference in Paris in which several oil ministers are due to take part.

But the Dec. 15 opening in Paris of "the north-south dialogue" between industrialised and developing nations now appears likely to be postponed until well into the new year.

OPEC Secretary General M.O. Feyide and other officials will leave the organisation's Vienna headquarters for Qatar at the weekend, OPEC Information Officer Hamid Zaheri said in Vienna today.

The OPEC ministers are expected to announce higher crude oil prices to take effect on Jan. 1, after a 15-month freeze. Western analysts have forecast an increase of about 10 per cent on the present average barrel price of \$11.51.

In Jeddah, Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani confirmed that the OPEC conference would start on Dec. 15.

Carter interviews more candidates for cabinet

ATLANTA, Georgia, Dec. 8 (R). — President-elect Jimmy Carter interviewed more candidates for his cabinet here today before preparing to fly to Washington this afternoon for a crammed series of briefings.

In Atlanta, he interviewed Dr. Harold Brown, rated the leading contender for Secretary of Defense, and Mr. Michael Blumenthal, State and Atlanta banker Mr. Bert Lance as Budget Director. He

Mr. Carter was having three other meetings at the Georgia governor's mansion he once occupied this week.

ed, before starting a 48-hour visit to the capital.

In Washington he was to have no fewer than 24 briefings and meetings with members of his transition staff and members of Congress, ending with talks and a tour at the Pentagon.

Mr. Carter has made only two choices for senior posts so far -- Mr. Cyrus Vance as Secretary of State and Atlanta banker Mr. Bert Lance as Budget Director. He

has said he does not anticipate any appointment announcements this week.

ATLANTA CHAT -- President-elect Jimmy Carter (right) chats with lawyer and campaign aide Mr. Charles Kirbo in Atlanta, Georgia, Tuesday, Mr. Carter is in Atlanta interviewing candidates for appointments in his new administration. (AP wirephoto).

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Arab ministers of culture to meet here on Dec. 20

AMMAN (JNA). — The first Arab aims for cultural activities in the ministers of culture conference Arab World, the suitable planning will be held here as of Dec. 20, procedures, organisation of cultural sources of the Ministry of Culture establishments, financing problems and coordination efforts. The conference, which will be achieved in the areas of culture, held in cooperation with the Arab Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, will discuss the establishment of a unified cultural policy through identifying basic and Youth, Sharif Fawaz Sharaf.

Foreigners banned from owning businesses in Saudi Arabia

AMMAN, Dec. 8 (R). — Thousands of foreign nationals are expected to leave Saudi Arabia following a government announcement today that they cannot own businesses in the country.

The Interior Minister, Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, said the ban would apply from Dec. 22, Riyadh Radio reported in a broadcast monitored here. The Radio did not make clear if the government ruling applies on banks and contracting companies.

The minister's statement said all foreigners who failed to abide

by the new law would have their shops and businesses confiscated. People with special permits have one year from Dec. 22 to wind up their affairs.

The radio said skilled workers would be allowed to remain in business once they obtained work permits. Foreigners could also work for Saudi Arabian firms.

The ban specifically mentioned foreigners trading in food and working as peddlars.

U of J to attend seminar on culture

AMMAN (JNA). — The University of Jordan will participate in a four-day seminar on cultural changes in the Middle East covering the period from the 16th century up till now to be held in Cairo next Saturday.

Representatives of the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation, the International Union for Social Studies, and a number of Arab and international universities and institutions will also attend this seminar.

RSS studies plastics industry

AMMAN (JNA). — Departments of Economics and Industrial Chemistry at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) are working together on a survey of plastics industry in the Arab World.

The outcome of the survey will help give an idea of the economic value of establishing a developed plastics industry in Jordan.

We mean business!

The Jordan Times is interested in hearing about any and all new developments in the business and industry sectors in Jordan, particularly new projects, contracts, agreements or joint ventures with local, regional or international parties. We will be highlighting such items of news here on page 2, and would like to be kept informed of such developments in both the private and public sectors so that we may follow them up with in-depth reports and photo coverage.

We shall also be starting a new regular column shortly, perhaps on a daily basis, about businessmen and businesswomen who are passing through or visiting Jordan. If you have colleagues or friends who are here on business, we'd like to know about it.

Such information for our business and industry coverage can be sent by mail to P.O. Box 6710, Amman, if there is enough lead time, or it can be brought in person to the Jordan Times office on University Road or phoned in any time after 12:00 noon to 67171-2-3-4.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
U.K. sterling	557.0	563.0
Swiss franc	135.6	136.0
German mark	138.7	139.0
French franc	66.6	66.9
Italian lira		
(for every 100)	38.5	38.7
Syrian pound	82.3	82.7
Lebanese pound	122.4	124.2
Saudi riyal	93.5	94.0
Iraqi dinar	950.0	960.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1145.0	1155.0
U.A.E. dirham	82.3	83.3
Libyan dinar	710.0	730.0
Egyptian pound	485.0	480.0

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LOOK OF THE LAND

Jordan through the camera's eye



Beduin lady, near Ajloun, relates the fate of a young man fell to his death in the rocks, a short walk from her tent.

Mr. Sarkis' task

The process taking place in Lebanon these days could set the stage for how things turn out in that country for the next several years. The process is a double one; it includes the job of establishing a new government and state services that can do their tasks, as well as maintaining the still precarious ceasefire until such time as both the reasons to make war and the material capacity to make war are removed from the landscape, or at least significantly reduced. In other words, the process taking place now under the diligent toil of President Elias Sarkis is the birth of a new Lebanon. And from what has happened in that country, nothing less than this kind of total metamorphosis will give the Lebanese any real chance to live again in peace and quiet.

But the task faces one gigantic danger — a relapse into the traditional ways of doing things in Lebanon. If President Sarkis succumbs to this, he shall doom his country for many years to come. By a relapse into old ways we mean specifically that President Sarkis should go about naming his prime minister and forming his government according to what he properly sees to be the needs and wishes of the Lebanese people. It has been his correct thinking that a government of technocrats is the thing the country needs most to revitalise the machinery of state. His danger is that the deranged old men of Lebanese politics will try to pressure him into slipping back into the traditional system by which specific religious-political groups apportioned power and wealth in Lebanon. That system was a monstrosity devoid of all justice, compassion or meaning. It was nothing more than a reflection of human greed at its worst, and it was very much responsible for the manner in which greedy men became barbaric men during the 19 months of warfare in Lebanon. They have nothing to show for their deeds.

These old warlords in Lebanon have been neutralised now for perhaps the first time in their history. While they are not out of the picture, they certainly no longer dominate it. The combined task of President Sarkis and the Syrian and Arab peace-keeping troops he has at his command is to further minimise the grip that the "traditional" Lebanese leaders have held over the country. President Sarkis should consult them out of courtesy, but little else. He should tell them what the new Lebanon will look like, and inform them of the new faces he has chosen to bring this about. But if they try to invoke their old "veto" powers in the matter of political appointments, President Sarkis should politely ignore them, if not arrest them.

The mad war in Lebanon was very much the natural consequence of a system that cared for little more than the accumulation of private wealth at the expense of the public welfare. A system that exhibited madness and anarchy in days of peace proved that it could be equally senseless in days of war, and it was. If the senile people who claim to speak for the Lebanese people now step forth to reclaim their old national power seats, they should be sent back to their villages and be made to understand that the process of rebuilding Lebanon has no room for vultures.

The danger is that it is difficult to each old dogs new tricks, and it has become clear already this week that the old men of Lebanon are trying to wiggle their way back into their positions of prominence and control. It is President Sarkis' most important task this week to make it clear that the old days are over, and the old tricks no longer work. If he is serious about building a new Lebanon, and of serving all the Lebanese people, he will do this quickly and forcefully.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

For the third day running the inspection of the Jordanian troops: Jordanian newspapers Wednesday "I am impressed by what I have seen. They are adept in handling interest in His Majesty King their modern weapons. They are Hussein's and President Assad's always keen to further raise the talks in Amman on bilateral relations between their countries.

Under the heading "One People, One Army," Al Ra'i says that after his visit to the Jordanian Armed Forces, President Assad, who was a military commander before he became a political leader, reached the following conclusion, "which we consider a true testimony for and a source of pride in our armed forces and their heroic role in the battle of our nation."

President Assad looked at these forces as "a guarantee for liberation, a physical might for the protection of the nation and an advance shield in the confrontation with Zionist aggression and expansionist ambition.

Al Dustour quotes President Assad as saying after his tour of

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Potash company produces specimen

AMMAN (JNA). — The Arab Potash Company has recently produced potash specimens as a part of executing its first experimental stage in producing potash at Ghor Nimeirah in Kerak Governorate, the director general of the company Mr. Ali Khasawneh announced Wednesday.

These specimens have been produced, at a request from the World Bank and some other international commercial and industrial companies, to be analysed for their chemical properties.

This analysis will decide the quality and the productive capacity of potash in Jordan, Mr. Khasawneh added.

National Notes

AMMAN. — The Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouh Tuesday morning received the Lebanese Vice-President of the Pre-Association, Mr. Tawfiq Al Mair and the Lebanese military attaché in Amman.

AMMAN. — Foreign Minister Al Ghanam Saturday morning received the Egyptian attaché in Amman.

AMMAN. — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouh received a cable of congratulation from the Kuwaiti Minister of State for Legal and Administrative Affairs Salman Al Dage Al Sabah reply to his cable on the occasion of Al Adha feast.

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هلا ان الاصل

Final details of Saudi takeover of Aramco due for release soon

ATHENS, (CSM). — The time of the annual worldwide pilgrimage by millions of Muslims to Mecca and Saudi Arabia's other Islamic holy places this month may also bring a multi-billion-dollar holiday gift by Saudi Arabian King Khaled to his people.

The final and agreed Saudi takeover of Aramco (the Arabian-American Oil Company), the world's largest oil group, will also be good news to Aramco's customers, especially Americans, the company's analysts will argue, because it means assured, long-term oil supplies from the one major producer that is trying steadily to keep prices down.

Some bankers and oil-industry insiders believe final details of the Aramco takeover may not be published until after the oil ministers' conference in Doha, Qatar later this month. This would avoid giving any impression that the ministers might be influenced in their deliberations about raising world oil prices by any aspects of the Saudi-Aramco accord.

Oil payments to the Saudi government by Aramco in 1975 were around \$25 billion, accounting for the better part of Saudi budget income. Top Aramco officials held secret talks on the accord's final form in France earlier this autumn after a year of discussions, despite earlier confident predictions of their completion by the end of 1975.

Saudi Arabia's High Petroleum Council, the kingdom's supreme body in oil matters, discussed and agreed last month on the final form of the agreement, according to a Riyadh Radio broadcast quoting Saudi Deputy Oil Minister Abdul Aziz Al Turki.

The company and its four original U.S. owners -- Exxon, Texaco, Standard Oil of California and

Mobil -- are expected to become contractors working for the Saudi government rather than continuing their old concession agreement with it.

Aramco, whose name may change (though the U.S. has reportedly resisted this for psychological reasons), would operate agreed parts of the Saudi oil industry for the Saudi state oil firm, Petromin, on a contract basis. Aramco controls about 96 per cent of Saudi oil production on which the United States is growingly dependent.

Some of the company's fees would be paid in oil at discount prices. The U.S. and Saudi negotiators are believed to have been long trying to work out a satisfactory formula for this.

The Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, himself a member of Aramco's board, is regarded as the chief architect of the new Aramco structure. Since he first advocated the formula of Arab participation in the Western oil industry at an oil seminar held at the American University of Beirut in 1971, the U.S.-Saudi oil relationship has been shifting.

The Saudi government first took a 25 per cent equity interest in Aramco and then increased this to 60 per cent. Aramco's four original U.S. shareholders agreed in 1975 that this should be increased to 100 per cent. The talking since then has been about compensation -- \$2 billion is one of several figures mentioned -- and such details of the future format as joint ventures with Petromin in petrochemicals and other fields.

Aramco is also the prime contractor in construction now under way of a giant natural gas collection and power distribution network in Saudi Arabia, valued at \$8 billion and due for completion by about 1980.



King Khaled: Presenting his people with a multi-billion dollar holiday gift.

Genoa clears its World War II mines

GENOA, Northern Italy (AFP). — This major Mediterranean port and harbour has been finally cleared of German mines 31 years after the end of World War Two, the authorities announced last week.

On April 25, 1945 German troops fleeing from the allied advancing armies sowed thousands of mines here. But when the order was given to blow them up an Italian partisan answered the telephone instead of a German officer in charge of the operation.

The daily newspaper Stampa reported that the German officer, Walter Panzlau, settled in Genoa where he keeps a dockside bar.

Western world fears worse as economic pointers predict continuing harsh times

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — Will the economic slowdown, now worldwide in scope, deepen into another recession among industrial nations?

Most economists think not -- if the U.S., Japan and West Germany gun the engines of their economies to build new trade momentum around the world.

Danger in such a course is that inflation -- now running close to 6 per cent in the U.S., 9.5 per cent in Japan, and nearly 4 per cent in West Germany -- would heat up if too much stimulus were applied.

Current economic growth rates, on the other hand, are too slow to bring down unemployment levels, still dangerously high in many countries of the world.

A faster growth rate among the economic giants -- the U.S., Japan and West Germany -- the argument goes, would open up their markets to more goods from smaller nations, whose economies are struggling.

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), meanwhile, scrapping earlier growth estimates, is revising downward growth projections for its 24 industrial members.

Collective growth rates for the U.S., Canada, Japan and Western Europe for the second half of 1976, says the OECD, may be only 3.5 per cent -- down from last July's estimate of 4.5 per cent.

The United States, with a current annual growth rate of about 4 per cent, cannot whittle down

its unemployment. Indeed, the U.S. jobless rate has climbed from 7.3 per cent last May to 7.9 per cent in October.

A 3.5 per cent growth rate, by extrapolation, is too low to reduce unemployment in other countries. Japan has only a 1.8 per cent unemployment rate and Austria is doing even better, with 1.2 per cent of its labour force out of work.

MAKE PRAYER, FLY FASTER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (R). — Israel's chief rabbi was anxious to get back from New York to Israel in time for the start of the sabbath last Friday and prayed that his El Al flight would not be delayed.

The plane broke the record for the trip by two hours, the pilot said he was assisted by strong tail winds but added that the rabbi's supplications may have given it a few extra knots.

But most nations of the OECD are not so well off. Ireland's jobless rate is above 12 per cent, that of Britain 6.4 per cent, Belgium over 8 per cent, the Netherlands 5.2 per cent, France nearly 5 per cent and Denmark 8.4 per cent.

Calls for an economic stimulus, voiced most recently by leading American, Canadian, Japanese and European economists meeting at

the Brookings Institution, reverse a "slow growth" policy endorsed by major industrial powers earlier in the year.

As recently as October, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), meeting at Manila, called inflation the "common thread" running through national and international economic problems and leading, among other things, to higher unemployment.

"There is," said IMF managing director J. Johannes Witteveen, "a clear and general view that the path to sustainable economic growth and to the reduction of unemployment lies in ... the restoration of a reasonable degree of price stability."

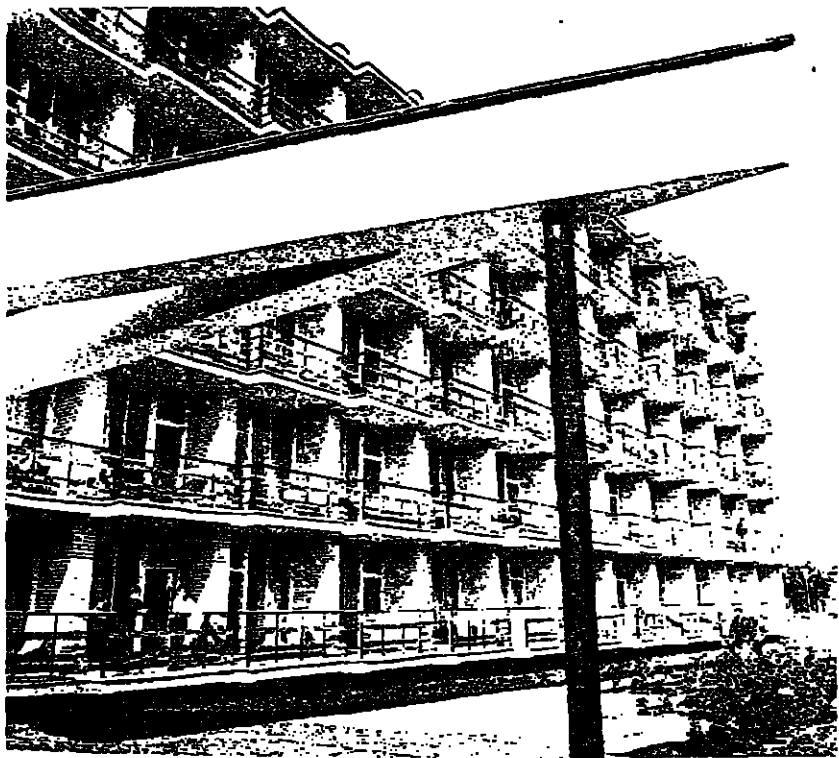
This echoed the conclusion of an economic summit meeting of major powers in Puerto Rico last June, which called for a brake on economic growth rates, lest inflation be reignited.

Spurring this cautionary view was the United States, the most influential member of the OECD and IMF. Chief sponsor of U.S. anti-inflationary policy is Treasury Secretary William E. Simon.

Adding to the fears of inflation is the likelihood that the 13-nation organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will decide on another rise in the price of oil.

A 10 per cent price increase, says the International Air Transport Association (IATA), would add at least \$250 million to airline operating costs around the world. Higher prices for fuel, says Great Plains Wheat, Inc., would bring "substantially higher" U.S. farm production costs.

The Eriskes collective farm: An example of Lithuanian prosperity



The Egle sanatorium was built for Lithuanian peasants in Druskininkai, a popular spa in that republic. The money for this sanatorium came from funds provided by Lithuania's husbandries.

The USSR is pushing forward with further specialisation and concentration of agricultural production. Greater prosperity will be achieved through greater inter-farm cooperation and agro-industrial integration.

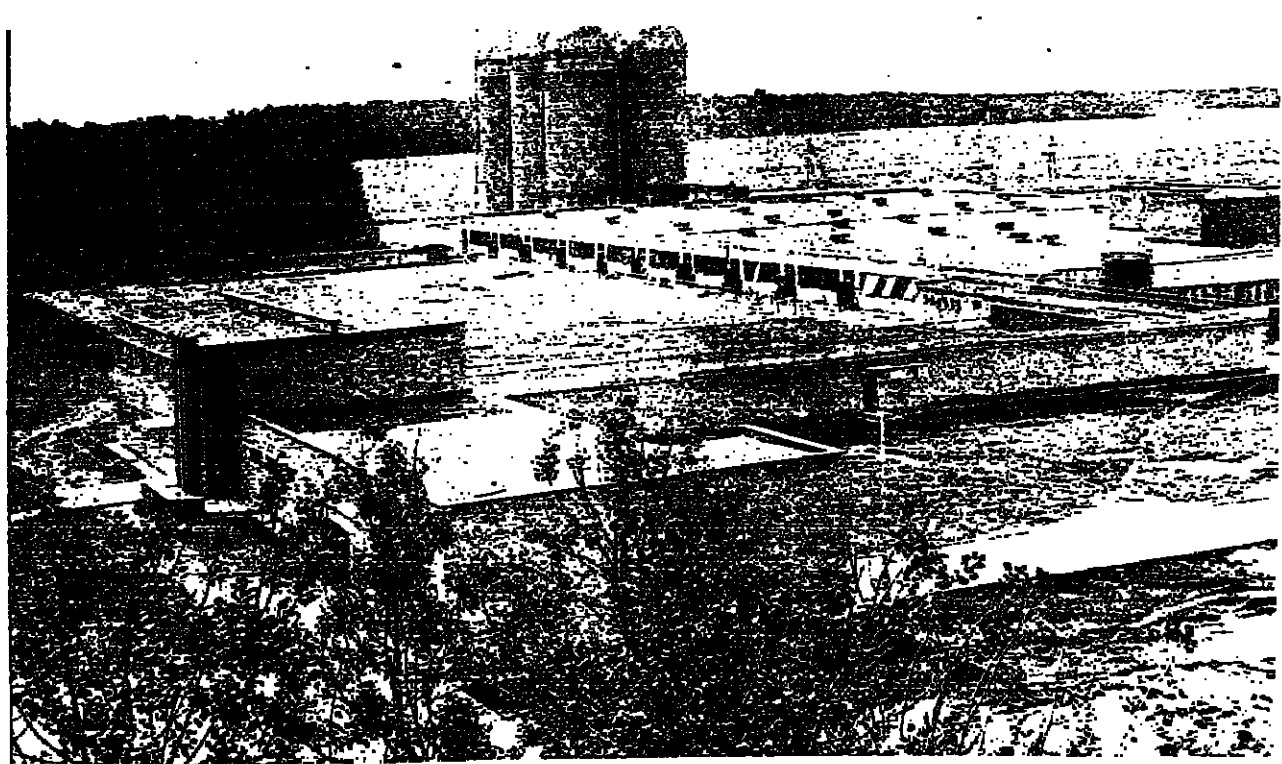
The Soviet Baltic Republic of Lithuania has considerable experience of industrialisation of the countryside. This process was stimulated by the adoption of a new agrarian policy at the March 1965 meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Purchase prices were raised considerably on agricultural produce (retail prices remained at the previous level), rural localities began receiving more machinery and fertilisers, and land improvement proceeded on a grand scale. Large-scale specialised inter-collective farm and inter-state farm associations -- agro-industrial complexes -- came into existence. They now number more than 150.

Work has become much easier in the agro-industrial complexes, while earnings are higher than average urban earnings. One-fourth of the able-bodied population of Lithuania is engaged in agriculture. This sector now accounts for one-third of the national income of the republic. The grain crop yield has doubled in the past ten years, but this is not the ceiling. The republic has reserves for further development of agricultural production, which would further raise the living standard of the peasants.

As in the past, improvements remain highly important for the growth of agricultural productivity in the republic. Lithuania is situated in a zone of overmoistening, and, therefore, drainage of swamps has increased ploughed land by nearly 2 million hectares. Thanks to reclamation, ploughed land will increase by another million hectares in the next five years. Agricultural productivity is planned to rise by 20-25 per cent, while the income of the peasants will go up by another 20 per cent.



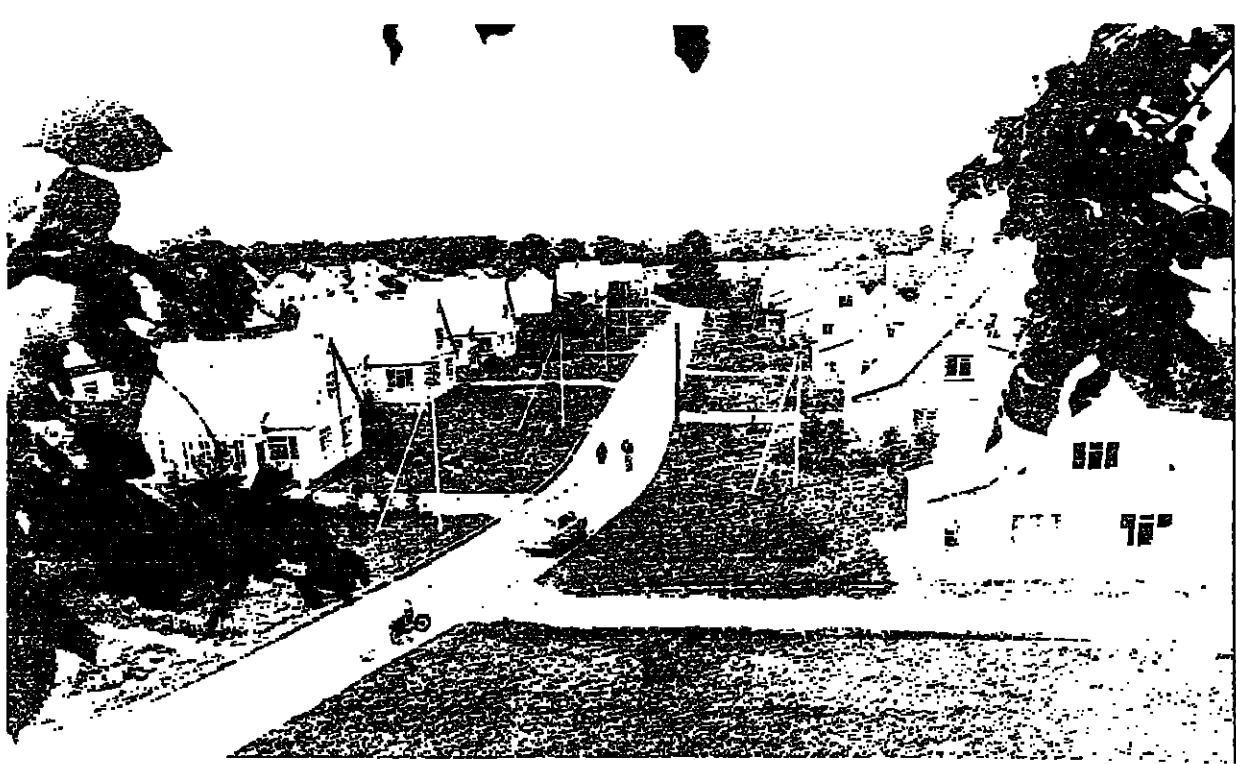
Living quarters even contain a T.V.



The livestock complex provides wealth for the collective.



The children's library.



A general view of the community farm.

Healey announces

U.K. to "neutralise" £ balances

LONDON, Dec. 8 (AFP). — Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey has announced that he hopes to be able to unveil an agreement in principle next week that will "neutralise" sterling balances. The deal, he said, would be part of a package that is still being drawn up.

Speaking at a lunch held yesterday by the Foreign Press Association, Mr. Healey said he could give no details until the whole package was ready.

The cabinet yesterday spent three hours discussing the measures, and is expected to take up the matter again on Thursday.

The chancellor said recent international contacts on the subject of sterling balances had produced widely-varying views on the issue.

He said one government — which he did not identify — believed Britain should simply liquidate the balances, while others, such as West Germany, were anxious that sterling balances should not merely be converted into other currencies.

A third view, Mr. Healey said, was that the balances were no problem at all.

The chancellor went on: "On the whole, I would give the most importance to these views accord-

ing to the contribution their holders make to the solution of our problem."

Sterling balances, he said, were a problem in as much as they were very liquid and could be withdrawn, to the detriment of Britain's balance of payments.

But the problem should not be exaggerated, said Mr. Healey, who went on: "The idea is to provide a safety net which will neutralise the overhang of the balances."

"I hope the decisions will give sterling a stability over a long period."

But the inflationary repercussions of the drop in the value of sterling would continue for some time, he said, and the rate of inflation would remain at about its present 14 to 15 per cent for six months before beginning to decline again.

In reply to recent criticism of the welfare state, Mr. Healey said: "Contrary to popular belief, last year we were spending less of our national wealth on social security than the United States, and less than nearly all our partners in the Common Market, although we were spending more on defence of the Western world than any other country other than America."

Although oil-producing countries continued to withdraw capital from Britain during the third quarter of the year, their sterling balances only decreased by £145 million (\$246 million) compared with a decrease of £918 million (\$1,560 million) in the second quarter, the Treasury revealed today.

Sterling balances totaled £6,190 million (\$10,523 million) on Sept. 30, compared with £7,395 million at the start of the year.

Oil-producing countries reduced their sterling balances by about £1,000 million in the last two quarters, the Treasury said. Those countries increased their deposits in London until their balances totaled £3,500 million at the start of 1975.

Their balances are now down to £1,600 million (\$2,700 million). This reduction undoubtedly contributed greatly to Britain's monetary difficulties, observers stressed.

Meanwhile, visiting Canadian External Affairs Minister Donald Jamieson told newsmen yesterday his country is willing to help Britain consolidate its sterling balances.

He said this subject was brought up at his meeting here yesterday with Prime Minister James Callaghan.

BEIRUT PORT SET TO REOPEN ON DEC. 15

BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (AFP). — Beirut's war-ravaged harbour will reopen on Dec. 15, following the successful enforcement of a recent nation-wide ceasefire, an informed source said today.

The decision was taken at a meeting of harbour directors today, though some directors had been reported hesitant because so-called "illegal ports" have begun flourishing between here and the northern city of Tripoli.

An International Red Cross ship on Dec. 15 is expected to be the first to drop anchor in the harbour for nine months, the source said.

But only one dock will be in use for freighters at first, with merchandise taken away directly by truck.

An estimated \$350 million — and several months' repair work — would be needed to restore warehouses shelled and burnt out during the civil war, harbour sources said.

According to the Arab News Agency, harbour directors were divided on the reopening, and those who opposed an early resumption of activities threatened to do their utmost to prevent it taking place.

Chinese leadership launches major campaign to stress "correct" line

PEKING, Dec. 8 (AFP). — The Chinese leadership has launched a major campaign aimed at stressing the "correct" party line following the purge of four major "radical" leaders, the People's Daily reported here today.

The report, carried on the front page, reproduced an article in the December issue of the party's theoretical journal Red Flag, which said the campaign was necessary because the "gang of four" had manipulated the mass media to "peddle revisionism."

Members of the "gang of four" were the widow of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Chiang Ching, Party Vice Chairman Wang Hung-wen, Deputy Premier Chang Chun-chiao and Yao Wen-yuan.

The People's Daily also featured a new quotation by Chairman Mao which criticised his wife and referred to new advances in the study of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung thought aimed at "eliminating the pernicious influence" of the "gang of four."

Red Flag reported that on March 20, 1974, Chairman Mao "indignantly criticised" Chiang Ching, saying "It would be better not to see each other. I gave you so much

advice over so many years but you rejected most of it. What is the good of talking with you? The books of Marx, Lenin and myself are at your disposal but you have refused to study them."

Red Flag claimed that the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao anti-party clique totally betrayed Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung thought and, through the mass media which they controlled, they peddled revisionism and created counter-revolutionary public opinion to usurp party and state power.

The four "distorted Marxist theory and deliberately misinterpreted it," the journal alleged, adding that they "preached strongly in favour of idealism and metaphysics to mislead the people and thus seriously sabotage the revolution and the building of socialism."

Because of this, it was more than ever necessary to read and conscientiously study and grasp the ideological weapon to annihilate the pernicious influence of the four, to expose and criticise their hateful crimes in the field of politics, ideology and organisation," Red Flag asserted.

Observers here said the "cor-

rect" campaign would be conducted parallel to inquiries begun throughout the country to unmask the followers of the "gang of four" who infiltrated principal sectors of the country and to continue the purge begun on Oct. 7 after the arrests of the four in Peking.

For the first time since Chairman Mao's death and the purge of the "gang of four," the official Chinese press said that the "series of important directives issued in the last few years by Chairman Mao on the study of theory and combat to ward off revisionism was aimed directly at this clique."

Observers remarked that Red Flag did not say the directives were aimed solely at the four, however.

Until the purge, the official press said that Chairman Mao's directives referred to disgraced former Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping and his "rightist deviationist" followers. The official press, it was disclosed today, was formerly in the hands of the four.

No mention was made of Mr. Teng in the article.

Peking makes new overture to Cairo

CAIRO, Dec. 8 (R). — The Chinese Premier, Mr. Hua Kuo-feng has assured President Anwar Sadat that China was giving every support to the Egyptian people in their struggle for progress. Foreign Ministry officials have said.

A message to Mr. Sadat from Mr. Hua was handed over to Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy today by the Chinese Ambassador here, Mr. Chang Tung, the officials said.

In the message, Mr. Hua assured the Egyptian president that China would also continue the policy of the late leader Mao Tse-tung of supporting the "just and legitimate struggle of Egyptian, Palestinian and Arab peoples."

Mr. Hua said that "although China is still a developing country, it is placing all its potentials to contribute to the strengthening of the Egyptian people for liberation, progress and development," the officials added.

Egypt turned to China for spare parts for its Soviet-made weapons following the alleged Soviet Union's failure to supply them.

Egyptian Vice President Mr. Hosni Mubarak visited China shortly before Chairman Mao's death where an agreement to this effect was reached between the two countries.

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)		3.00	Concert hour
7.00	Breakfast show	4.00	Old favourites
7.30	News bulletin	4.30	Easy listening
7.40	Morning melodies	5.00	Special feature
8.00	Sign off	5.30	Pop session (Part III)
12.00	Pop session (Part I)	6.00	News summary
1.00	News summary	6.03	Listener's choice
1.04	Pop session (Part II)	6.30	Pop music U.S.A.
2.00	News bulletin	7.00	News bulletin
2.15	Radio magazine	7.10	News reports
2.30	Comedy	7.30	Sign off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors :	Ajjeh (72068)
Amman :	Nihad (30844)
Khader Azzam (39229)	Irbid :
Abdul Salam Awad (38073)	Khazar
Irbid :	Zarqa :
Zeid Abdul Mahdi	Dalal
Ahmad Jahmani	Tariq
Zarqa :	Taxis :
Mohammad Amin Halabi	Al Hussein City (63273)
Pharmacies :	Rainbow (37249)
Lubna (44944)	Asfour (23231)
Raghadan (24797)	Ahli (21127)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Departures :	Arrivals :
6:00 Jeddah	8:00 Cairo (EA)
6:10 Damascus, Muscat.	8:00 Jeddah
Frankfurt (Lufthansa)	8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain
8:45 Cairo (EA)	8:40 Dhahran, Kuwait
9:30 Beirut	8:50 Baghdad
9:30 Rome	9:40 Kuwait (KAC)
10:00 Athens, Madrid, Casablanca	11:25 Rawalpindi (BA)
10:30 Kuwait (KAC)	11:30 Jeddah
12:10 London (BA)	12:45 Beirut
12:30 Paris	17:10 London
14:45 Cairo	17:40 Copenhagen, Vienna
18:30 Jeddah	18:15 Rome
19:00 Abu Dhabi, Bangkok	18:55 Amsterdam, Athens
20:00 Jeddah	20:20 Riyadh (SDI)
21:30 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)	20:45 Cairo
	24:00 Jeddah

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	" 24391-4
Fire headquarters	" 22090
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41520
British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37009
Goethe Institute	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111









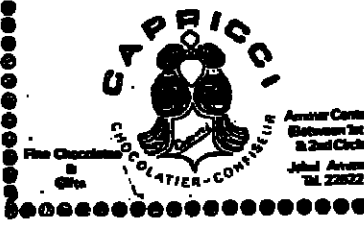

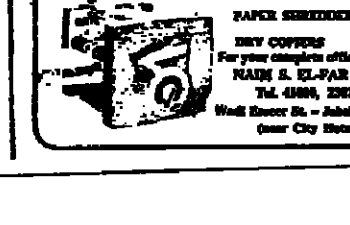
BBC RADIO

GMT		
05:00	News; 24 hours	13:45 Radio Theatre
05:30	Composer of the week	14:30 Matthew on Music
05:45	The World Today	15:00 Radio Newsreel
06:00	News; Press Review	15:15 Outlook
06:30	Baker's Half-Dozen	16:00 News; Commentary
07:00	News; 24 hours	16:15 Contemporary Music
07:30	Composer of the week	16:45 The World Today
07:45	Wars that changed the World	17:00 News
08:00	News	17:09 People and Politics
08:15	The Sound of ...	17:25 Music from Ireland
08:30	Farming World	17:40 Book Choice
09:00	News; UK Press Review	17:45 Sports Round-up
09:15	The World Today	18:00 News; Radio Newsreel
09:30	Financial News	18:30 Baker's Half-Dozen
09:45	Music Now	19:00 News; Outlook
10:15	Wales '76	19:42 Stock Market
10:30	Your Verdict	19:45 Beat is Black
11:00	News	20:00 World News; 24 hours
11:15	Biology of a lifetime	20:30 A Jolly Good Show
11:30	Reith Lecture	21:15 People and Politics
12:00	Radio Newsreel	21:30 Featuring
12:15	Top Twenty	21:45 Paperbacks
12:45	Sports Round-up	22:00 News; The World Today
13:00	News; 24 hours	22:25 Financial News
13:30	Paperbacks	22:35 Gilbert and Sullivan
		22:45 Sports Round-up
		23:00 News ; Commentary

JORDAN TELEVISION

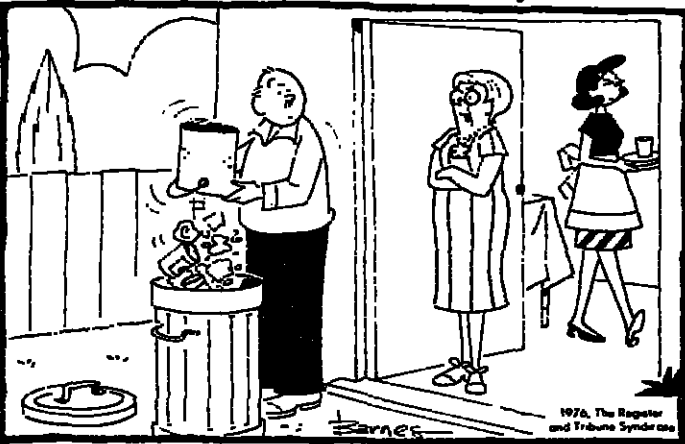
Channel 3 & 6	10.00	Play
6.00 Quran		
6.05 Cartoons		
6.30 On we go		
7.00 Time to remember		
Channel 3		
7.30 Science and life		
8.30 Arabic series		
9.15 Quiz programme		
Channel 6		
7.30 News in Hebrew		
7.45 Varieties		
8.30 Bless this house		
9.10 Invisible man		
10.00 News in English		
10.15 Petrocelli		

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THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



"I was just telling Harriet about my theory that there isn't anyone who can't do at least ONE thing very well."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1976, The Chicago Tribune

North-South vulnerable.
West deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 9
♥ 7 2
♦ A J 10 4
♣ 8 6 5 3

WEST **EAST**
♠ Void ♠ 8 7 3
♥ K J 10 8 5 ♥ 9 6 4 3
♦ K Q 9 7 5 ♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ K J 9 ♣ 10 2

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 6 5 4 2
♥ A Q
♦ Void
♣ A Q 7 4

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Pass Pass 2♥
3♦ Dble. 3♥ 3♣
Pass 6♣ Pass Pass
Pass
Opening lead: King of ♦.

If you consider the possibilities, occasionally you can unearth a surprising way to develop a suit. South showed exemplary technique to land a difficult spade slam on this hand from a recent rubber bridge game.

South was slightly optimistic when he viewed his hand as good enough to force to game via a cue-bid of opener's suit. We favor a takeout double followed by a jump in spades at his next turn, to allow for the possibility that partner held little or nothing. As it was, there are those who might chastise North for not trying for a grand slam, even though six spades was in some danger.

West led the king of diamonds, and declarer realized at once that he had problems. West was marked for

every missing high card on the auction, so even if declarer discarded a heart on the ace of diamonds, there was the possibility that he would lose two clubs.

There were two lines of play: to hope that West had started with only two clubs to the king; or to hope that West had started with no trumps. In view of West's aggressive bidding and the fact that he had risked a rather dangerous diamond lead rather than a safe trump, declarer elected to play East for all three missing trumps.

He won the ace of diamonds and continued the jack, discarding two clubs from his hand! West won the queen. With no better return, West continued diamonds and dummy's ten won as South discarded the queen of clubs.

Declarer cashed the ace of clubs, entered dummy with the nine of trumps and ruffed a club. He reentered dummy with the queen of trumps and ruffed another club, setting up the remaining club. All that was left to do was to cross to dummy with the ace of spades, drawing East's last trump, and discard the queen of hearts on the good club. An elegant loser-on-loser play landed the contract.

How America can get out of its work apathy...

By Fred Rudge

NEW YORK. (CSM). — Popular notion in the United States has it that "nobody wants to work anymore."

It is said that "workers are interested only in pay and benefits": "the puritan work ethic is dead and buried"; and "those under 30 have no morals, no worthwhile goals, and are difficult or impossible to manage."

In the nation's interest, it is high time that these sacred cows be slaughtered. People get more job satisfaction out of doing a good job than a sloppy one.

Judging by more than 20,000 off-the-record interviews over the last quarter century, 90 per cent plus of the country's workers want to do the best job of which they are capable.

The reason they don't is not laziness, stupidity, or lack of skill and experience. It is that most work is done in an organizational climate that stifles interest, kills initiative and inevitably produces frustration and a "to-heck-with-it-all" attitude.

The answers, and there are answers, lie first in the hands of management. Granted, in times of war, management can perform production miracles -- as it did in World War II. Granted, in times of peace, American management has no peer in such areas as developmental research, marketing and finance.

But in utilizing their human resources, particularly supervisors and hourly workers, most companies are 30 years behind the times. Companies manage autocratically. In a democracy, where people are proud, such management becomes less effective as each day passes.

The answer for management is to involve all of its people in operational problem solving. Involvement doesn't cost a nickel, the people enjoy greater job satisfaction, the company makes more money. Some 30 major corporations are experimenting with such involvement and to date have achieved spectacular results.

Finally, a word of advice to the distinguished leaders of American industry who are rightly worried about business credibility, the Achilles heel of the private sector. They should not spend their money on television sponsorship of cultural events or, in the case of the oil industry, on commercials stating "we love the fish that swim around our offshore rigs."

The same money -- spent on an individual, company-by-company basis to involve its own people in operations improvements -- will vastly increase the company's credibility with its own people.

Nor should business leadership forget that in the aggregate the 83 million people who work in the private sector constitute the largest single voting bloc in every federal, state and virtually every major city election in the nation.

Unions tend to be as backward in their sphere as management is sultan in its sphere. Wages and benefits are the traditional area of labour-management contract bargaining.

Added wages and benefits are crucial to incumbent union leaders, who don't want to lose their jobs, but ... that's not the whole story. Workers want good pay, but they also hunger after more satisfying jobs.

It is high time that management and labour leaders ease off in their outmoded mutually-antagonistic approach and together examine the neglected area of better human-resource utilisation.

Where tested, it has paid off for management, the unions and the workers. The men and women who labour in the factories and offices across the country are a key element of America's strength and continuing liberty.

(Mr. Rudge, whose book "The Key to Increased Productivity" soon will be published, is a consultant on labour-management employee relations.)

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



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Bijeregard

"I've just discovered a way I can stay in bed five minutes longer in the mornings."

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TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

THE INVISIBLE MAN SIGHT UNSEEN

Members of a gang kidnap son of a key witness to prevent him from testifying against them, but Dr. Westin succeeds in thwarting their plans.

PETROCELLI EDGE OF EVIL

Petrocelli defends a man accused of the murder of his best friend for he is convinced of his innocence.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TIFFY
VENET
LESTUS
DRYBAN

Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHANT, BURST, AVENGE, LEGUME
Answer: What people of differing opinions might join in—AN ARGUMENT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



PULLED OUT AFTER AN ORAL EXAM.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

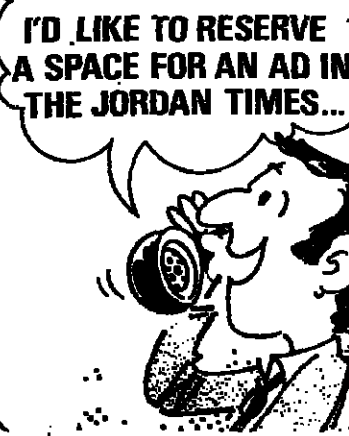
(Answers tomorrow)

REPORTERS WANTED

The Jordan Times seeks qualified and experienced reporters who are interested in writing for the paper on a full-time, part-time or freelance basis. Primary qualifications are perfect command of English and substantial professional experience in reporting and writing news or feature stories. Experience in radio or television journalism in English may be appropriate. reference will be given to Jordanians and Arab nationals, all other qualifications being equal.

Persons with the above qualifications who are interested in work with the Jordan Times should send by mail or deliver by hand a CV with examples of their published writing and details of previous journalistic experience to: The Editor, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman. Personal interviews will be conducted after all applicants have submitted their CVs.

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THE JORDAN TIMES...



MUTT AND JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



YOUR HOROSCOPE



CROSSWORD PUZZLE



NATO defence ministers put off decision on sharing cost of airborne radar system

BRUSSELS, Dec. 8 (R). — NATO defence ministers today failed to reach a decision on the alliance's most ambitious attempt at collaboration in mounting a fleet of expensive flying radar stations over Europe. Alliance sources said that the ministers, already a year past a self-imposed deadline for a decision, could not agree on how the estimated \$5 billion cost should be divided among NATO countries.

Instead, they ordered a high-level committee of financial experts to try to narrow differences next month before the ministers make another bid to solve the problem.

The special ministerial session is scheduled for late January or early February, probably here at NATO headquarters where ministers are now holding discussions.

Alliance defence experts have said that 27 of the airborne radar stations -- Boeing 707s equipped with the best search radar that the United States can produce -- are needed to fill "blind spots" in NATO's air defences.

The sources said the ministers, winding up two days of talks, were generally agreed on the need for a fleet of 27 aircraft.

The cost of acquiring the aircraft is about \$2.5 billion but maintenance, support and crew training will double the figure over the next 15 years.

The figure is more than double the amount involved in the so-

called "arms deal of the century" in 1975 under which the United States will supply F-16 fighters to four European NATO states.

The sources said the airborne radar stations could start work in 1980 if the ministers decided to go ahead with that project at their special session.

The planes, whose radars can see down to treetop level, are deemed necessary because the present ground-based NATO radar system can not spot aircraft flying below 1,750 m.

According to the sources, Germany today said that while it wanted the radar station it could not commit itself on the size of its contribution.

The sources said Italy and Turkey voiced concern that the bulk of the aircraft -- called AWACS in NATO jargon for airborne warning and control systems -- would be used in Northern Europe, leaving the alliance's sensitive south-

ern flank with insufficient cover.

The British have already budgeted for their own airborne radar system -- the Nimrod -- which is less sophisticated than the AWACS project, and want to know as soon as possible whether will have to scrap this for the NATO project.

France has refused to buy the AWACS, but is interested in "subscribing" to it, by paying for information. France is a NATO member but withdrew from the Integrated Military Command in the early 1960s. As such, it did not attend today's meeting.

The smaller members of the alliance want time to study the impact of participating in AWACS on their defence budgets.

Greece did not attend the meeting in keeping with its boycott of the military side of NATO following the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.



RECOVERING NUN -- Sister Ermentried Knaier (47), a science teacher at Regina Mundi Mission, Lupane, Rhodesia (about 170 kms from Bulawayo) was on her way to recovery Tuesday in Mater Dei Hospital, Bulawayo, after being machine-gunned Sunday. African nationalist guerrillas and the Rhodesian authorities have traded charges concerning responsibility for the incident, in which three Catholic missionaries were killed. (AP wirephoto).

Giscard launches initiative on marketing commodities aid to the poorer nations

BELGRADE, Dec. 8 (AFP). — French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing last night proposed immediate negotiations on market organisation for about ten raw materials and basic products, including copper, rubber and tea, within 18 months to two years at the most.

These "vast and complex" negotiations should be arranged and coordinated by UNCTAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, he said in a lecture on "World Economic Dialogue" at the University of Belgrade.

The agreements, he suggested, could cover the study of possible stock arrangements, an organisation to collect investments to diversify production, and "means of additional support."

The additional support would be modelled on mechanisms envisaged by the 1975 Lome (Togo) Convention, which associates 49 African, Caribbean and Pacific states with the European Economic Community.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, who ended a 36-hour official visit to Yugoslavia yesterday, also proposed increased aid for the poorest nations, and protection of the purchasing power of developing countries as a whole.

There should be a "substantial reduction" in the indebtedness of developing countries, with "the

Egypt to have "shadow cabinet"

CAIRO, Dec. 8 (AFP). — The right-wing of Egypt's Arab Socialist Union (ASU) has formed a "shadow" cabinet along the lines of the British opposition front bench in the House of Commons. It was announced here today.

The "shadow" cabinet will be headed by Ahmad Sayed Darwish, a former health minister who is secretary of the rightwing party group. His deputy will be Fikri Mawad, the party's second secretary.

The creation of the "shadow" cabinet was announced today by Mustafa Kamel Mourad, the party leader, during a press conference at the ASU's headquarters.

Mr. Mourad said the party would begin next month publishing a weekly journal. The Opposition, which would be financed by the rightwing and the ASU. Until last October's legislative elections, the ASU was Egypt's sole legal political party.

The elections resulted in an overwhelming victory for the centre of the ASU, with the left and rightwings of the party and about 40 independents winning parliament's remaining seats. On Nov. 11, President Anwar Sadat announced that the three tendencies inside the ASU be constituted into independent political parties.

The leftwing, which has only two members of parliament, has rejected the idea of forming a party, noting that they were not consulted by President Sadat.

The new parties are to depend for their financing on the ASU. The change to a multi-party state touched off an argument on freedom of expression and President Sadat announced a few days later that the new parties would have the right to found their own publications.

This move did not however end the argument. It still raises on principle around the question of financing for party journals. With out government support these are unlikely to be financially viable.

Mr. Mourad said the rightwing weekly would have a print order of 50,000 copies.

... and calls for Western summit

PARIS, Dec. 8 (AFP). — President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing will shortly send leaders of the main Western industrial nations details of his proposal to hold a new economic summit meeting early next year, government spokesman Jean-Philippe Lecot said today.

He said the president would send leaders of the countries concerned a letter containing proposals and ideas for the organisation of such a meeting which would be the third of its kind after those held in Puerto Rico last June and at Rambouillet, near Paris, in November last year.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, second by Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti publicly called for a new summit following top level Franco-Italian talks at Pisa, northern Italy, on Dec. 2.

The proposal has so far been endorsed by Britain, West Germany, and Canada.

U.S., W. Germany, France biggest defence spenders in NATO

BRUSSELS, Dec. 8 (AFP). — The United States, West Germany and France are the biggest national defence spenders among North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) member countries, according to statistics released here today.

The statistics compiled by NATO financial services showed that in 1976 per head of population the three countries spent respectively \$394, \$226 and \$198 per capita on defence. If defence spending on Berlin was taken into account, the West German tally would reach \$269 per capita, according to the figures.

Tiny Iceland which has no armed forces is on bottom of the defence-spending chart, while Italy, Turkey and Greece have not provided details of defence expenditure.

Earth tremor rocks S. African gold city

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 8 (AFP). — A gold miner was killed and the centre of the mining town of Welkom badly damaged today by a strong earth tremor which registered 4.8 on the Richter scale.

The miner died and another was

Another North Sea oil field, Piper, comes on stream

ABERDEEN, Scotland, Dec. 8 (R). — Oil has started flowing from Britain's Piper oilfield, the seventh North Sea field to come on stream, Occidental Petroleum Corporation said yesterday.

The British firm said flow was expected to reach 250,000 barrels a day in 1977. The Piper field was discovered in 1973 and lies 100 miles northeast of Aberdeen.

Oil from the North Sea should provide about a quarter of Britain's needs by next year, according to government estimates.

injured when the tremor caused the collapse of workings in Anglo-American Corporation's Welkom gold mine. The town, in the Orange Free State is 250 kms. southwest of here.

Three African miners trapped by a rockfall in another mine, the President Brand, were rescued, but there was no news of the fate of workers in a third mine, the Free State Geduld.

Ambulances step there and through Welkom centre where a five-floor building collapsed. Whole walls of other buildings caved in during the two-minute tremor, while several houses collapsed and caught fire. Schools were evacuated.

Experts of the Department of Mines in Pretoria measured the quake at 4.8 on the Richter scale, but said it was a "mine tremor", caused by subsidence in the underground galleries which riddle the area.

Mining circles said they feared new tremors would occur later today or in the next few days.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

● CAIRO, Dec. 8 (R). — Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak returned home today at the end of a 24-hour visit to Khartoum on future Arab strategy in the Middle East.

During his visit, Mr. Mubarak conveyed a message from President Sadat to Sudanese President Jaafar Nimeiry.

Egypt and Sudan are discussing steps for economic and political integration of their two countries. They are also bound by a mutual defence agreement.

Mr. Mubarak had already toured a number of Gulf states, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria last month on similar missions.

● WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (AFP). — Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti left here today after a two-day official visit with a U.S. pledge to help Italy out of its economic difficulties.

Authoritative sources said the American aid would involve a line of credit which the Andreotti government could tap if necessary. Its main goal, however, would be as a guarantee which would limit speculation against the troubled lira, the sources said.

● MADRID, Dec. 8 (AFP). — A wave of strikes has hit Spain a few days ahead of the referendum on political reform, and an increase in stoppages was generally expected.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed firmer Wednesday after earlier small falls were erased on lack of selling interest. Some dealers ascribed rises to an optimistic economic survey from a stockbroking firm, while others thought that the interim figures from GEC affected sentiment.

At 1500 the F.T. index was up 3.7 at 323.5. Government stocks were higher by around 3/16 in shorts after the government broker withdrew his price for the short "tap" stock. Longs were little changed.

In oils, BP recovered an earlier 10p fall and Shell gained 10p. Banks were up to 3p lower on balance.

Mining shares mostly recovered earlier falls with some shares gaining in balance, after the higher gold bullion price. Australians firmed further.

GEC gained 17p among leading industrials, dealers said. Other leaders around 6p to 8p higher at the close included Fisons, Glaxo, Thorn, GKN and Beecham, while rises of 4p to 5p were scored by ICI, Hawker, Unilever and Lucas.

Pilkington Brothers eased 5p after figures. J. Lyons was 2p higher after news of its sale of the Wimpy concession and a subsidiary, Tetley, Inc.

In Madrid work stopped at the CASA aircraft plant which employs 7,000; the John Deere Siemens and Ibelsa factories were reported at a standstill.

In the San Sebastian region, an estimated 20,000 metal workers were on strike, and others ceased work in Leon province.

In Navarre, building workers continued a stoppage and dockers at Barcelona were still out.

Many collective labour agreements come to an end at the close of this year and a significant increase in strike action was generally expected in the immediate future.

● BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (R). — The board of trustees of the American University of Beirut (AUB) has adopted a budget for 1976-77 containing a deficit of about half a million dollars, the university announced here today.

A press release said the board adopted the budget "with the highest expectation that it will be balanced, and also that 1977-78 will have a balanced budget."

● BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (AFP). — The Venezuelan terrorist nicknamed Carlos had a hand in last week's assassination attempt on Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Lebanese weekly Al Sayad said today.

The news magazine said that Carlos was one of the leaders of the Palestinian guerrilla group Black June, named after the Syrian military intervention in Lebanon last June, which claimed responsibility for the attack.

It also said that Carlos played a part in the attack on Damascus's Semiramis hotel on Sept. 26.

● JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 8 (AFP). — An Israeli firm specialising in military communications material has opened a factory near Pretoria in partnership with a South African company, it was announced here today.

The factory, sited at Rosslyn outside the capital, will be run jointly by the Tadiran Israel Electronic Industries and the Calan Group. It will produce a wide range of electrical and electronic material, sources said.

The Rosslyn company will also deal with the marketing in South Africa of other more sophisticated Tadiran products which the factory cannot produce, the sources said.

The main emphasis at Rosslyn will be on producing emergency lighting units providing up to three hours of light in the events of a power cut.

● BAGHDAD, Dec. 8 (AFP). — Bulgarian premier Stando Todorov had talks here last night with the Vice Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council and Iraqi leader, Saddam Hussein Takriti.

People's Daily revives memory of Mao's second wife, Yang Kai-hui

PEKING, Dec. 8 (AFP). — Mao Tse-tung's former wife Yang Kai-hui, executed by the Kuomintang in 1930, today became an unexpected weapon in the virulent criticism campaign in the official Chinese press against Chairman Mao's widow Chiang Ching and her "gang of four".

Yang Kai-hui was Mao's second wife from 1921 until she was killed, at the age of 29, by the Nationalist Chinese on Nov. 24, 1930. The party newspaper, the People's Daily devoted an entire page today to an unprecedented homage in memory of Yang Kai-hui on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of her execution. She had been held hostage by the Kuomintang to force her husband to surrender, and then shot.

The party and revolutionary committees of Changsha, capital of Chairman Mao's native Hunan Province, held a memorial rally in late November in which 4,000 workers, soldiers and farmers participated, the People's Daily reported.

The speakers at that rally denounced with "indignation" the crimes of the gang of four, especially in "persecuting the great leader Chairman Mao" and opposing the memorial rally for Yang Kai-hui. Former President Liu Shaoh-chi and former Defence Minister Lin Biao were also opposed to the project, the article added.

The People's Daily printed the text of one of Mao Tse-tung's poems in calligraphy. Dated 1957, it was addressed to the widow of a comrade-in-arms who was killed in 1933.

The widow had sent him a poem glorifying the memory of her husband. In response Mao Tse-tung evoked the memory of her friend Yang Kai-hui: "I lost my proud Yang Kai-hui and you your Liu... they both flew up to the ninth heaven on the moon they asked for hospitality and Wu Neng poured them cassia wine."

The revolutionary purity of Yang Kai-hui, who died a heroine, and her loyalty to Chairman Mao and the party, were used to denounce even more scathingly the "anti-party counter-revolutionary" and "revisionist" Chiang Ching.

After the October conspiracy, Chiang Ching was accused of wanting to assassinate her husband while he lay on his deathbed.

"The comrades attending the meeting (in Changsha), in comparing the two (Yang Kai-hui and Chiang Ching), hated Chiang Ching even more strongly and saw even more clearly her reactionary nature", the paper said.

Along with a photograph of Mao's former wife, the People's Daily printed an article written by the criticism group of the People's Literature Publishing House, exposing and denouncing the "crimes" of the gang and their "implacable hatred" for Yang Kai-hui.

As an example of this hatred, the paper said Mao's widow and her accomplices deleted a note on the martyrdom of Yang Kai-hui from the English edition of Mao Tse-tung's poems published in May.

After Yang Kai-hui's death, Mao Tse-tung married his third wife who accompanied him on the Long March. He then divorced her, marrying Chiang Ching.

AMERICAN EMBASSY AMMAN

SEEKING CANDIDATE FOR CAREER POSITION IN THE FIELD OF RADIO ELECTRONICS

Embassy technical position:

Wanted: Radio electronics technician, preferably with teletype maintenance experience or training, to service receivers, transmitters, and teletype equipment. Good command of English required.

Apply to Personnel Office, American Embassy, Amman, P.O.B. 354. Give resume of technical education and experience. Include photo if available.

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1. Kitchen cleaners.
2. Waiters - previous top class hotel experience required.
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4. Chambermaids - previous hotel experience essential.
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The above positions are available now and carry the following conditions of employment:

1. Good salary, depending on age and experience.
2. Transport to and from work.
3. Meals while on duty.
4. Medical attention.
5. Four weeks paid annual holiday.

A knowledge of English would be an asset but is not essential for all positions.

Passports and birth certificates are required.

Interviews will be held at MASS Company, Jabal Amman, opposite the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, Abdul Fatah Ebadeh building on Tuesday and Wednesday Dec. 14 and 15, 1976, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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